# Your Resource Partner in Building a Safer Cincinnati



# LANDSLIDE AREAS

## I. WHAT IS A LANDSLIDE AREA?

A landslide area, or landslide susceptibility area, is an area that has been predetermined to be susceptible to landslide, by either reference to "Landslide Susceptibility Maps", a list of active landslides or field inspection.

Some landslide areas are also in zoning overlay districts called Environmental Quality (EQ) Hillside Districts and may be subject to an EQ review process.

### II. WHAT CODES/REGULATIONS ARE APPLICABLE?

All work performed in a landslide area must be in accordance with the Cincinnati Zoning Code, Cincinnati Building Code, and all other applicable laws and ordinances.

Contact the following agencies:

Building Code Plan Examination - 352-3313 (Landslide Susceptibility Maps) Zoning Code Administration - 352-3273 (EQ District applicability)

#### III. ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

- A. Geotechnical engineers (a list of recognized geotechnical engineers is available through the Cincinnati Chapter of American Society of Civil Engineers) are required to submit soils reports, make recommendations on methods of performing the earthwork and field supervise the following types of projects:
  - 1. Excavation and/or fill operations for which a permit is required and in all areas shown in red on the "Landslide Susceptibility Map".
  - 2. Excavation and/or fill operations for which a permit is required and in areas shown in yellow and orange on the "Landslide Susceptibility Map" where, in the opinion of the Director of Buildings and Inspections, the services of a Geotechnical Engineer are required in the interest of public safety.
  - 3. Sites with active landslides. This determination shall be made from the list of active landslides that is maintained by the Department of Buildings and Inspections, or field inspection.
  - 4. Sites where existing or proposed slopes are greater than 3 horizontal to 1 vertical.
  - 5. Sites where any excavation is greater than 12 feet in depth or located next to an existing structure where possibility of undermining exists
  - 6. Sites where a structural fill in excess of five feet is required.

7. An earthwork area greater than two acres.

Note: A "Declaration Contract for Geotechnical Engineering Services" shall be completed and submitted when a geotechnical engineer is required (available at the Business Development and Permit Center, 3300 Central Parkway, Cincinnati, Ohio 45225).

- B. Earthwork projects for which architects or engineers are required to prepare plans and supervise the work:
  - 1. Excavation and/or fill operations for which a permit is required and in all areas shown in yellow and orange on the "Landslide Susceptibility Map", and a geotechnical engineer is not required.
  - 2. Sites where existing slopes are steeper than five horizontal to one vertical, but not greater than three horizontal to one vertical, and it is proposed to increase the slope.
  - 3. Sites with fill in excess of 12 feet in depth or where special drainage or erosion control provisions are required.

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